

Script - Film 1 – Burns Birthplace Museum

There aren't many poets in the world whose life and work we celebrate on their birthday. Even Shakespeare isn't afforded that accolade

Every year on the 25th of January, we pay tribute to Robert Burns, Scotland's national poet, with Burns suppers featuring recitals of the bard's best-loved works.

Burns wrote much of his poetry in Scots, but that's not so say he's only well-known in Scotland.

His poems have been translated into more than 40 languages including Latin and Esperanto and his face has featured on stamps, coins and banknotes worldwide.

He's admired not only for his poetry *and* love songs, but also for his good looks, his colourful character and his reputation with women.

On his deathbed, Burns is said to have proclaimed. 'I will be much better known in the future than I am today.

In the 21st century, why has the ploughman poet become a poster boy for Scottish identity and a global brand for the Scots themselves?